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by City Manager's Office



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Leslye Krutko

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: May 4, 2006

Approved

Date

5/5/06

INFORMATION

SUBJECT: USA TODAY ARTICLE ANNOUNCING FIVE YEAR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2006 INNOVATIONS IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AWARD

Attached please find a copy of today's USA Today newspaper, which has a full-page advertisement on page 13A announcing the finalists for the Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government Innovation Award. The City of San Jose's Five-Year Affordable Housing Program has been selected as one of 18 finalists, out of an initial application pool of more than 900. The Selection Panel will make decisions later this month after hearing a presentation from City staff; seven of the 18 will be selected to receive a \$100,000 award.

The Mayor and City Council provided the leadership needed to both approve the five-year plan and ensure that it didn't sit on the shelf. You deserve congratulations for your efforts that have led to this recognition.

LESLEYE KRUTKO
Director

Attachment

Celebrate!

Public Service Recognition Week

GEICO and USA Today are proud to support Public Service Recognition Week—a project of the Public Employees Roundtable at the Council for Excellence in Government.

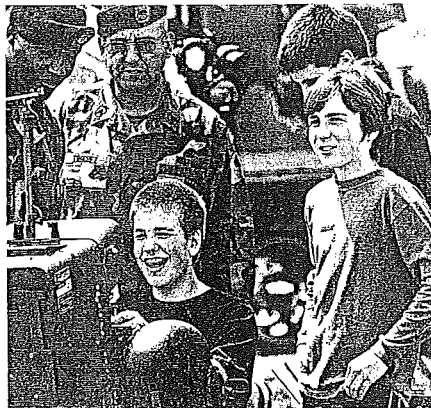
Celebrating Excellence in Public Service

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK, celebrated the first Monday through Sunday each May since 1985, is a time set aside to honor those who serve America as federal-, state- and local-government employees. In addition to the estimated 100,000 visitors who will converge on the National Mall in Washington beginning today and for the entire weekend to sample the interactive displays of some 200 military and civilian



Uncle Sam is always a crowd-pleaser during Public Service Recognition Week.

federal agencies, Public Service Recognition Week will engage thousands more who will take part in a host of celebrations from St. Louis to Trenton...Spokane to Providence...Boca Raton to Baltimore, as more than 150 governors and mayors have issued proclamations designating May 1 to 7 as Public Service Recognition Week in their state or city.



Kids get a first-hand look at U.S. Department of Defense technology at Public Service Recognition Week on the National Mall in Washington.

The Public Employees Roundtable at the Council for Excellence in Government — which organizes the week — hopes that recognition of public servants will happen more than just once every year. Leaders from the private sector agree. That is why GEICO—a long-time supporter of Public Service Recognition Week—invites other corporations to join them in sponsoring additional education and outreach efforts that strengthen and promote our nation's public sector.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

I send greetings to those celebrating Public Service Recognition Week.

Public service is a high calling and an expression of responsible citizenship, and our Nation is deeply indebted to the men and women who devote their lives to careers that serve the public good. Throughout our country, public servants at all levels of government work to improve our lives, advance prosperity, and protect our homeland. Since President Ronald Reagan first observed Public Service Recognition Week in 1985, this week has provided an opportunity to celebrate all those who work in the public sector and honor their many contributions to our country.

I appreciate public servants for your hard work and dedication to your fellow citizens. Your efforts reflect the best of the American spirit.

Laura and I send our best wishes.

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A Salute to the Best and Brightest in the USA



IN CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK, GEICO, *USA Today* and the Public Employees Roundtable at the Council for Excellence in Government are proud to recognize the eighteen uniquely smart, creative, and effective government initiatives that have been named today as finalists for the prestigious Innovations in American Government Award. These amazing programs — and the extraordinary public servants behind them — have created better, results-oriented efforts that improve the lives of countless people across the USA. They are:

America's Army Computer Game/U.S. Army — a virtual way for Americans to learn about, and potentially prepare for, Army career opportunities;
Dirigo Health Reform/State of Maine — through a comprehensive approach, ensures the health of all residents by addressing rising costs and inconsistent quality;
eCityGov Alliance 2006/Mercer Island, WA — the first cross-jurisdiction web portal that provides seamless access to permits and other information;
Five-Year Affordable Housing Production/San Jose, CA — has created more than 6,000 new affordable housing units in one of the nation's most expensive cities;
Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit/D.C. Metropolitan Police Department — redefines community policing by coupling community outreach with traditional crime fighting;
Generations of Hope/State of Illinois — a planned intergenerational community for foster and adopted children, their parents and retiree "grandparents";
Grass Roots Conservation Program/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service — rewards voluntary conservation of wildlife habitats in the Blackfoot Watershed;
Green Tier/State of Wisconsin — replaces a traditional environmental compliance system with a collaborative model that allows for superior environmental performance;
Health Information Technology/U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs — maintains electronic patient

records that improve efficiency and health care, while reducing costs;
HomeBase/New York City — shifts focus and resources away from just sheltering the homeless by actually working to prevent homelessness;
Land Bank/Genesee County, MI — acquires abandoned urban land and determines the best use of it with the community's needs in mind;
Mayor's Charter Schools Initiative/Indianapolis, IN — authorizes the Mayor to create and oversee charter schools;
Municipal Automated Vehicle Sharing Program/Philadelphia, PA — allows workers on city business to use vehicles that are more accessible, fuel efficient, and cost-effective;
New Alliance Task Force/Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation — helps "unbanked" immigrant communities gain access to mainstream financial services;
Promising Practices Network/State of Missouri — makes available the best research on how programs across the country help children and families;
Supportive Housing Pilots Initiative/State of Connecticut — invests in housing and services for families and individuals experiencing homelessness;
Teaming/Commonwealth of Massachusetts — creates teams of social workers who collaborate on cases in order to reduce isolation and improve services for families;
Urban Academies Program/School Board of Broward County, FL — recruits and trains teachers from poor and minority communities to teach in the most hard-to-staff schools.

The Innovations in American Government Award is a program of the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and is administered in partnership with the Council for Excellence in Government. Seven winners will be announced on July 10. To learn more about these programs — or to apply for the 2007 awards — visit www.excelgov.org.

The Public Employees Roundtable at the Council for Excellence in Government—a nonprofit and nonpartisan coalition of organizations—works to promote public service and citizen appreciation and recognition of public servants at all levels of government.



THE COUNCIL FOR
at *Excellence*
IN GOVERNMENT

You secure our future.
You protect their dreams.
You keep it all running.
You work for the United States of America.

It's not your average job.
But then, you're not the average employee.
You're a federal employee.

You do more.
You care more.
You sacrifice more.
You do it for our country.
And we wouldn't be nearly as good without you.

Thank you for serving us all.
We're proud to serve you.

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